

**Minutes
EMS Committee Meeting
October 8, 2008**

EMS Committee

Kathleen Adelgais
Mark Bair
Tamra Barton
Jeff Brown
Raleigh Bunch
Jeff Davis
Jay Downs
Sheila Garvey
Kathy Johnson
Kevin Johnson
Mike Mathieu
Steve Pehrson
Breck Rushton
Mario Sanchez
Lynn Yeates
Shellie Young

Bureau Members

Jenny Allred
Dennis Bang
Guy Dansie
Michelle Hale
Leslie Johnson
Joshua Legler
Allan Liu
Lyle Odendahl
Sharon Ormond
Paul Patrick
Irene Petrogeorge
Travis Scoresby
Peter Taillac
Sharon Talboys
Jolene Whitney
Don Wood

Visitors

Jeff Bassett
Lana Burningham
Steve Easterman
Ross Fowlks
Eric Hales
Mason Hall
Ron Johnson
John Miller
Mike Moffitt
Ron Morris
Jim Rampton
Lynn Schofield

Welcome and August Minutes

Tammy Barton, Chairperson of the EMS Committee, called the meeting to order and asked if everyone had read the minutes. She then called for a motion to approve the August Committee meeting minutes.

Jeff Brown moved that the minutes of the August 20, 2008, meeting be approved as written. It was seconded by Steve Pehrson and was approved by a vote in the affirmative by Mark Bair, Tamra Barton, Jeff Brown, Raleigh Bunch, Jeff Davis, Jay Downs, Kathy Johnson, Kevin Johnson, Mike Mathieu, Steve Pehrson, Breck Rushton, Mario Sanchez, Lynn Yeates, and Shellie Young. There were no negative votes or abstentions.

Paul Patrick announced that he had finally received the Governor's newly appointed members of the EMS Committee. The new member then told of their interests and qualifications for their appointments. Those newly appointed were Raleigh Bunch, Jeff Davis, Jay Downs, Mike Mathieu, Mario Sanchez, and Lynn Yeates. He also reported that Kevin Johnson, Breck Rushton, and Steve Pehrson were reappointed to the Committee by the Governor. Official notification from the Governor's Office will be sent to each new member and those reappointed four to six

weeks after this meeting. The standing members of the Committee then introduced themselves and indicated their position on the Committee. Tammy asked the members of the Bureau to stand and tell who they were. Kathleen Adelgaiss and Sheila Garvey arrived and introduced themselves to the Committee and visitors. All agreed that it was an honor to serve on the Committee.

Paul Patrick stated that the outgoing members will be honored at the January EMS Committee meeting.

Tammy Barton welcomed the new members to the Committee. She explained the importance of attendance at meetings, and asked that members remember who they represent. Since no proxies are allowed, if they are unable to attend the meetings, their position would have no representation.

Responsibilities of EMS Committee

Lyle Odendahl, Assistant Attorney General and representative to the Department of Health, outlined the duties of the EMS Committee as well as the duties of the Department. He said the 16 member EMS Committee is established by statute, and requires a nine-member

quorum to conduct business. It is feasible that business could be approved by a total of five yes votes.

The Committee has the power to establish standing committees, ad hoc task forces, and Subcommittees. The Committee is to be organized with a chair and vice chair to be elected from among the members in January each year. A minimum of four meetings per year are required, but may be increased if deemed necessary. The Committee shall adopt rules to establish certification and reciprocity requirements; establish designation requirements; promote development of statewide EMS system; establish insurance requirements for ambulance providers; establish guidelines for requiring patient data, and awarding of grants; establish requirements for coordination of EMS; and medical supervision of EMS providers. The Committee may grant a waiver of rules it has adopted.

Ambulance rates are established by the Department. The Department is the lead agency for coordinating the statewide emergency service communication systems under which emergency medical personnel, dispatch centers, and treatment facilities provide medical control and coordination between emergency medical service providers.

The law that comprises the EMS Systems was changed in 1999. It took two tries to get it right as a legislative attorney changed some wording which changed the meaning in the bill. The next year the wording was changed and the law remains the same today.

Legislative and EMS Cuts

Paul Patrick reported on the three percent budget cuts required by the Legislature and how the Bureau had handled them. Some of the items that have been changed include cancellation of the instructor conference in Cedar City and the new instructor conference in Salt Lake. Those

individuals needing the instructor conference to recertify will be given a one year extension. By statute agency vehicles must have a valid permit on them every year. There will be an actual on-site inspection one year, and self inspection one year, requiring every other year that an inspector come to count all supplies, etc. In-state travel will be reduced by 20 percent; out-of-state travel will be reduced by 50 percent.

The budget cuts required in October were a surprise. The Legislature raided restricted EMS grants restricted funds, and removed \$1,000,000. Items removed from the grants program were:

Administrative costs	\$100,000
Trauma funding	\$ 71,780
Competitive grants	\$300,000
High school funding	\$ 90,000

The Department will reduce per capita funds by the same. Paul turned the meeting over to Ron Morris to discuss the Competitive Grant allocations.

Ron reported on the emergency Grants Subcommittee meeting held Monday, October 6, 2008, and said this was not an easy task for the Subcommittee. They thought long and hard about how to decrease the grant amount by \$439,000. The Subcommittee looked at all the categories that were included in the grants. The first thing looked at was the hospitals grant and consensus was to eliminate the hospital grants completely. Two or three of the large categories would have to be decreased.

The Subcommittee thought about cutting out all CME, but felt that was too drastic. The recommendations of the Subcommittee were to decrease the following:

- ✓ training cut by 50 percent
- ✓ all communication systems
- ✓ all defibrillators
- ✓ all training equipment
- ✓ other equipment cut 30 percent
- ✓ hospital grants cut 100 percent

It was felt this was a pretty strong statement to the Legislature that they could not do this again because some of the smaller agencies do not have enough CME monies to keep their current EMTs and paramedics trained. CME is not a matching grant, and agencies may not be able to send the employees to as many conferences and trainings.

Because ambulances had already been decreased by 20 percent in earlier cuts, they are such a large ticket item, and they last so many years the consensus was to leave the category out.

The recommendation of the Subcommittee to decrease the amounts by eliminating certain categories from the grants, caused a number of protests regarding the categories eliminated. Some agencies complained that they had already purchased items approved from the original grant allocations noted on the web page. Others felt penalized because they ordered items after

viewing the allocations mentioned on the Bureau web page. Agencies have always been able to count on the amounts allocated and have ordered supplies, etc. with no problems.

Tammy Barton reminded everyone that all the remaining grants categories require matching funds. The Grants Subcommittee members assured that no agency was singled out and that only categories were considered. There could be some agencies that would not receive any funds if the categories requested were eliminated.

Tammy Barton said she would entertain a motion to either accepting the Grants Subcommittee's recommendation, or if there were someone who is absolutely brilliant, or has unlimited funds, or we can change the amounts around.

Lyle Odendahl reminded the Committee that they had to be very careful not to turn the Competitive grants into Per Capita classification.

There were a number of concerns that agencies would not be able to purchase their approved grant items and that monies would be left on the table for another year.

Breck Rushton asked if the agencies had been notified of their grant. Ron Morris replied that the grant information had been posted on the EMS Website, but no contracts had been awarded.

Mike Mathieu moved that all hospital funding be eliminated, ambulances which had already had a 20 percent cut in August be left as they presently are. All other Competitive Grant amounts will be decreased by the percentage necessary to meet the Legislative decrease in funding. The agency may use grant monies approved in the initial grant or any item in the same category. Kathy Johnson seconded the motion, and the motion was approved with a vote in the affirmative by Tamra Barton, Jeff Brown, Raleigh Bunch, Jeff Davis, Jay Downs, Kathy Johnson, Kevin Johnson, Mike Mathieu, Steve Pehrson, Breck Rushton, Mario Sanchez, Lynn Yeates, and Shellie Young. There were no negative votes or abstentions. Mark Bair, Kathleen Adelgais, and Sheila Garvey left the meeting before this vote was taken.

Operations Subcommittee

Ron Johnson reported that there were no action items from the Subcommittee.

Training Subcommittee

Dennis Bang reported on the Training Subcommittee in the absence of Jack Meersman, Chair and Dave Fluckiger, Vice Chair. He said there were no action items.

FYI

Shellie Young reported that the Subcommittee members who had been appointed to the EMS Committee need to be replaced on both the Training and Operations Subcommittees. Subcommittee replacements were not included on the agenda. It was noted that Mike Moffitt had been working with Shellie on Subcommittee vacancies and we now needed another Committee member to work with her. Breck Rushton volunteered to serve with her.

Kevin Johnson moved that Breck Rushton be assigned to work with Shellie Young on the Subcommittee ad hoc task force. It was seconded by Lynn Yeates and was approved by an affirmative vote from Tamra Barton, Jeff Brown, Raleigh Bunch, Jeff Davis, Jay Downs, Kathy Johnson, Kevin Johnson, Mike Mathieu, Steve Pehrson, Breck Rushton, Mario Sanchez, Lynn Yeates, and Shellie Young. There were no negative votes or abstentions. Mark Bair, Kathleen Adelgais, and Sheila Garvey left the meeting before this vote was taken.

Data Report

Joshua Legler presented the results of the meeting in August with charts from the POLARIS system. So far, there have been 100,000 records received.

Since there were no further agenda items, Tammy Barton requested a motion to adjourn.

Breck Rushton moved that the meeting adjourn. It was seconded by Steve Pehrson and approved by an affirmative vote from Tamra Barton, Jeff Brown, Raleigh Bunch, Jeff Davis, Jay Downs, Kathy Johnson, Kevin Johnson, Mike Mathieu, Steve Pehrson, Breck Rushton, Mario Sanchez, Lynn Yeates, and Shellie Young. There were no negative votes or abstentions. Mark Bair, Kathleen Adelgais, and Sheila Garvey left the meeting before this vote was taken.

Next Meeting will be held January 21, 2009 in the Highland Building in the Auditorium.

Minutes were prepared by Sharon Ormond, Executive Secretary, Bureau of Emergency Medical Services. Reviewed and approved by the EMS Committee on January 21, 2009.